

Buds AND Blossoms

By
MAMIE MILLER



"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose."—Isaiah 35:1.

The narcissus is the flower for December. There is much confusion about the rose mentioned above, but according to the Scripture the rose mentioned above was the narcissus.

There are many varieties of narcissus. They grow profusely be-

tween Palestine and the Mediterranean. They are plentiful in Jericho and Jerusalem. They use this sweet scented flower in most every home in Damascus.

According to mythology, Narcissus or Narkissos was a handsome Greek boy who fell in love with Earth and Air's daughter. He couldn't return her love, so she pined away—leaving nothing but her sweet voice.

He fell in love with his naked body as he stood near a pool. He fell in and was drowned. Where his body came ashore, a beautiful narcissus grew. The legend says it produces an atmosphere that might cause a person to lose his mind, or sometime might mean death. It can also ward off evils.

Wreaths were made for goddesses to wear, and used in place of a lily that we place in the hand of the dead in this country.

It is not too late to put out paper white narcissus now. If you wish to force them, place in a bowl with pebbles in the bottom, and fill the bowl with water. Place the container in the dark for two weeks, then keep in a room of 70 degrees temperature. They will bloom in six weeks.

Mulch after the first freeze. Rake up all leaves. Plant sweet peas now. Plant more bulbs, such as tulips, lilies and shrubs. Move all necessary shrubs before the ground freezes.

We have beautiful Christmas poems that we enjoy reading each year. We hope that you will find "The King" written by Mabel Law Atkinson especially pretty:

These gifts I wish for you this Christmas Day,
These simple gifts the heart may ever hold;
The faith to see the Holy Star's clear ray
Leading to Bethlehem; the treasured gold
Minted from friendship through the changing years;
The frankincense of hope to ease despair—

The myrrh of love that will illumine your tears,
Revealing Heaven through the gates of prayer.

In the garden of your thoughts may there be flowers,
Petaled with all the beauty you have sown

To burgeon for another's perilous hours

Who walks with beauty never walks alone.

These gifts I wish for you, and may they bring

The Christ of peace that you may find the King.

Queen of the Hop — Bobby Darin.
'It's All In The Game — Tommy Edwards.
Chantilly Lace — Big Bopper.
Problems — Everly Brothers.

CONTINUOUS

It's no trouble for some men to swear off a bad habit—they do it thousands of times.

Don't ridicule the opinions of others—convince them to accept your own.

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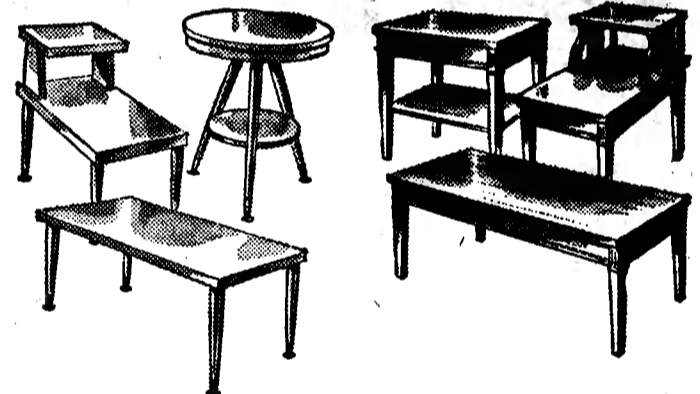
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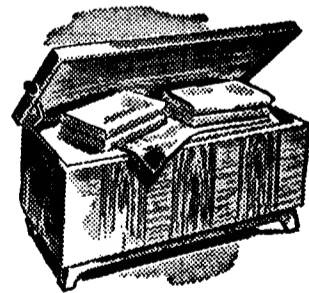
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